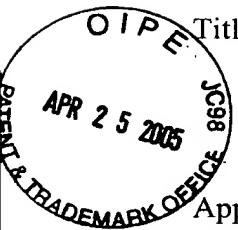


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Katsuya KOBAYASHI



Title: CATALYST COMBUSTION  
SYSTEM, FUEL REFORMING  
SYSTEM, AND FUEL CELL  
SYSTEM

Appl. No.: 09/784,197

Filing Date: 02/16/2001

Examiner: Carl D. Price

Art Unit: 3749

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

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**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Documents B1-B3 were cited during prosecution of a counterpart German application.

Documents B1 and B2 are in English. Applicant has provided an English language title and abstract for document B3.

With respect to document B1, the German Examiner stated claims 1, 13 and 15 of the German application lacked novelty in view of document B1.

With respect to document B2, the German Examiner cited claim 1, claim 15, claim 16, figures 1-5, figure 9 and the associated description.

With respect to document B3, the German Examiner cited claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 10-12 as well as figures 1 and 2 and the associated description.

Applicant respectfully requests that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**FEE**

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 4/25/05  
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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <small>APR 25 2005</small> <small>86</small> <small>Date Submitted: April 25, 2005</small> <small>Use as many sheets as necessary)</small>		<b>Application Number</b> 09/784,197 <b>Filing Date</b> 02/16/2001 <b>First Named Inventor</b> Katsuya KOBAYASHI <b>Group Art Unit</b> 3749 <b>Examiner Name</b> Carl D. Price <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> 040302-0260	
Sheet	1	of	1

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

## **NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

NON-PRINT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.